

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: AL/MS/FL

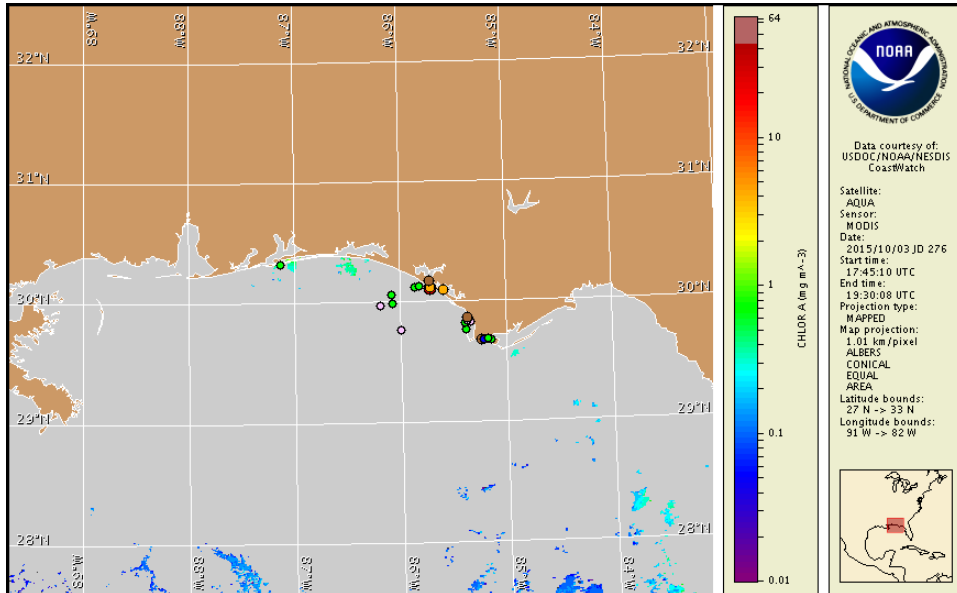
Monday, 05 October 2015

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Thursday, October 1, 2015



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from September 25 to October 2: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information for Florida can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at:

<http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

Conditions Report

Not present to high concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) are present along- and offshore portions of northwest Florida from Escambia to Taylor counties. *K. brevis* concentrations are patchy in nature and levels of respiratory irritation will vary locally based upon nearby bloom concentrations, ocean currents, and wind speed and direction. The highest level of potential respiratory irritation forecast for along-shore northwest Florida Monday, October 5 to Thursday, October 8 is listed below:

County Region: Forecast (Duration)

Bay County: Low (M-Th)

Bay County, bay regions: Moderate (M-Th)

Gulf County: Low (M-Th)

Gulf County, west bay regions-St. Joseph Bay area: Low (M-Th)

Gulf County, east bay regions-Indian Lagoon area: Low (M-Th)

All Other NWFL County Regions: None expected (M-Th)

SWFL County Regions: Visit <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/#swfl>

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations. Health information, from the Florida Department of Health and other agencies, is available at http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab_health_info.html. Reports of respiratory irritation have been received from Bay and Gulf counties. Reports of dead fish have been received from Walton, Bay, Gulf, and Franklin counties.

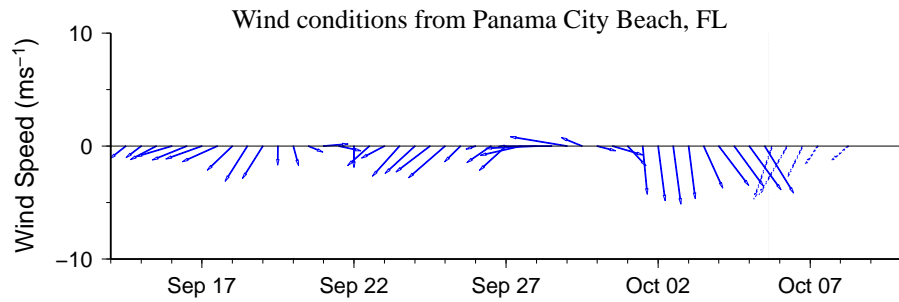
Analysis

Recent samples collected last week from along- and offshore northwest Florida (Escambia to Taylor counties) indicated not present to 'high' concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (FWRI; 9/24-9/30). Alongshore Bay County, sampling indicated 'medium' to 'high' *K. brevis* concentrations at St. Andrews Pass and up to 'medium' *K. brevis* concentrations within St. Andrews Bay (FWRI; 9/30). Sampling along- and offshore Escambia, Okaloosa, and Franklin counties continues to indicate *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI; 9/24-9/29). Reports of respiratory irritation have been received from alongshore Bay and Gulf counties. Reports of dead fish have been received from alongshore Walton, Bay, Gulf, and Franklin counties.

Recent ensemble imagery (MODIS Aqua, 10/3), is completely obscured by clouds along- and offshore northwest Florida from Escambia to Taylor counties, preventing analysis.

Observed winds over the past five days may have promoted westward transport of *K. brevis* concentrations. North to northeast winds forecast today through Thursday are unfavorable for intensification of *K. brevis* concentrations at the coast of northwest Florida from Bay to Franklin counties.

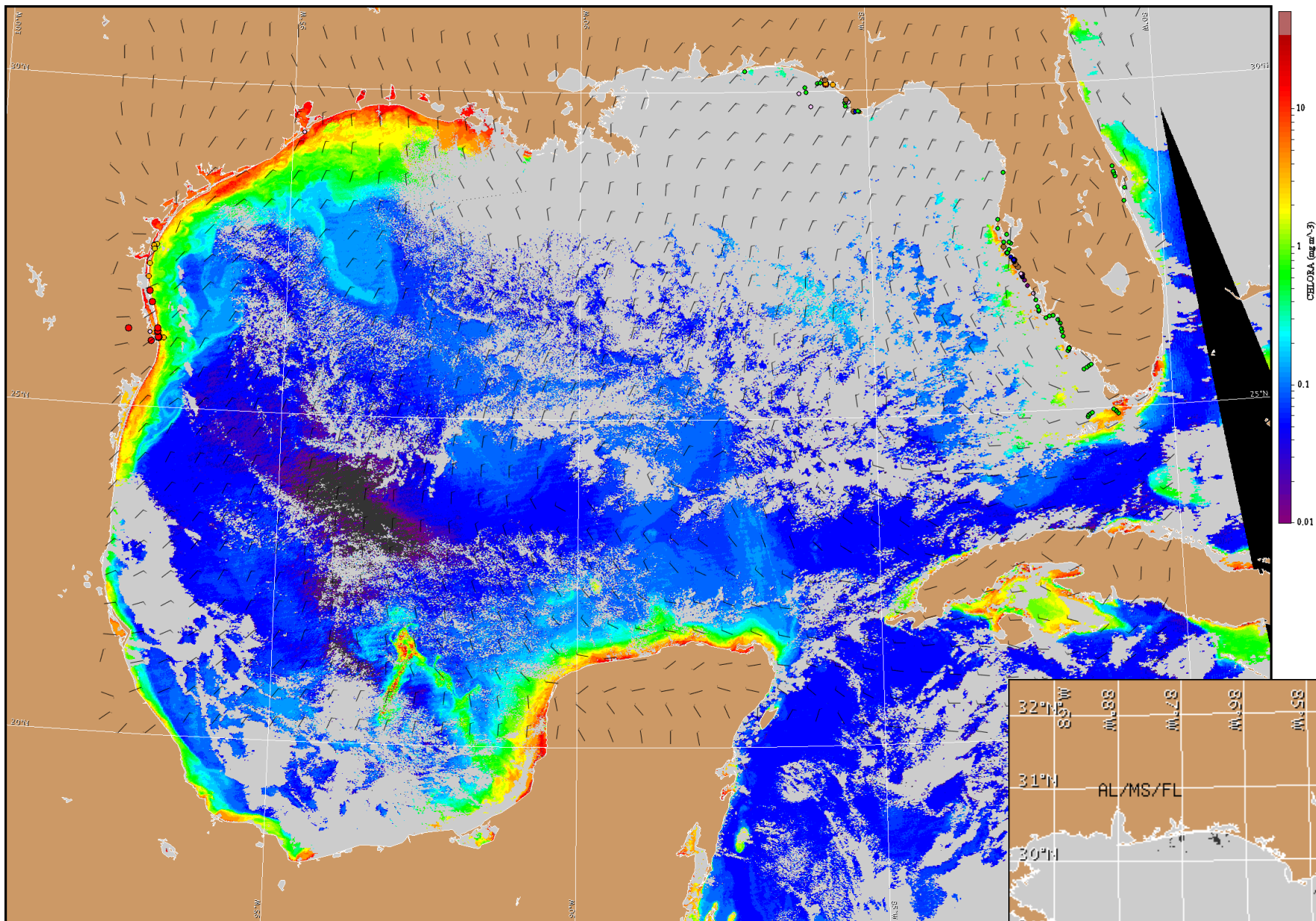
Davis, Derner



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

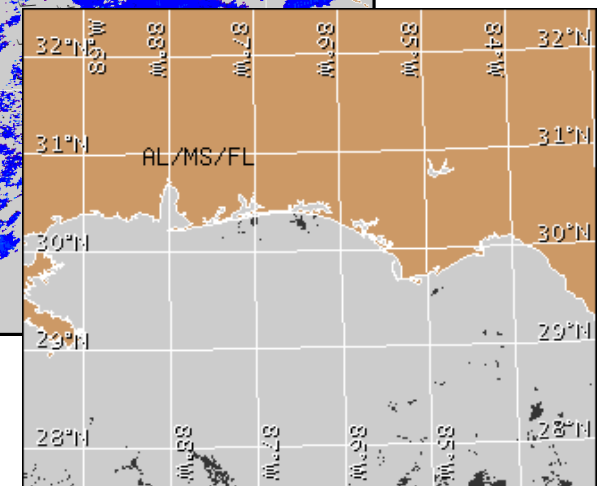
Wind Analysis

Escambia to Taylor counties: North to northeast winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) today through Wednesday becoming east winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Wednesday evening through Thursday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 6, 2015 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from September 25 to October 2: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas with *K. brevis* optical characteristics shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).